

Attorney Docket No: 23546-07665

Client Ref: RTS-274

USSN: 10/006,191

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A compound 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases 2212 through 2238 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor (SEQ ID NO:19), wherein said compound specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor and inhibits the expression of connective tissue growth factor, wherein said compound is an antisense oligonucleotide and wherein said antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modification selected from the group consisting of a modified internucleoside linkage, a modified sugar moiety, and a modified nucleobase.

2. (Canceled)

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~The compound of claim 2~~ An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases 2212 through 2238 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor (SEQ ID NO:19), wherein said antisense oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor and inhibits the expression of connective tissue growth factor and wherein the antisense oligonucleotide has a sequence comprising SEQ ID NO: 47, 48, 63, or 64.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The compound of claim 1 ~~claim 2~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified internucleoside linkage.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 4 wherein the modified internucleoside linkage is a phosphorothioate linkage.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The compound of claim 1 ~~claim 2~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified sugar moiety.

7. (Original) The compound of claim 6 wherein the modified sugar moiety is a 2'-O-methoxyethyl sugar moiety.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The compound of claim 1 ~~claim 2~~ wherein the antisense oligonucleotide comprises at least one modified nucleobase.

9. (Original) The compound of claim 8 wherein the modified nucleobase is a 5-methylcytosine.

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10. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** ~~The compound of claim 2~~ An antisense oligonucleotide 8 to 50 nucleobases in length targeted to nucleobases 2212 through 2238 of a nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor (SEQ ID NO:19), wherein said antisense oligonucleotide specifically hybridizes with said nucleic acid molecule encoding connective tissue growth factor and inhibits the expression of connective tissue growth factor and wherein the antisense oligonucleotide is a chimeric oligonucleotide.

11. (CANCELED)

12. (Original) A composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

13. (Original) The composition of claim 12 further comprising a colloidal dispersion system.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting the expression of connective tissue growth factor in cells or tissues comprising contacting said cells or tissues with the compound of claim 1 so that expression of connective tissue growth factor is inhibited.

16. (Withdrawn) A method of treating an animal having a disease or condition associated with connective tissue growth factor comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of the compound of claim 1 so that expression of connective tissue growth factor is inhibited.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is a hyperproliferative disorder.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17 wherein the hyperproliferative disorder is cancer.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 18 wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of breast, prostate and renal cancer.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein the disease or condition is selected from the group consisting of pulmonary fibrosis, renal fibrosis, scleroderma, and atherosclerosis.